REPORT TO THE TWENTY-SIXTH LEGISLATURE

REGULAR SESSION OF 2012

PROGRESS REPORT REGARDING THE ESTABLISHMENT OF THE PUBLIC LAND TRUST INVENTORY



Prepared by

THE STATE OF HAWAII DEPARTMENT OF LAND AND NATURAL RESOURCES

In response to Section 3 of Act 54, Session Laws of Hawaii 2011

Honolulu, Hawaii

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BACKGROUND

This report is prepared pursuant to Section 3 of Act 54, Session Laws of Hawaii (SLH) 2011, which calls for the Department of Land and Natural Resources (DLNR) to provide a progress report to the Legislature regarding the establishment of a comprehensive information system to inventory and maintain information about the lands of the public land trust described in Section 5(f) of the Admission Act and Article XII, Section 4 of the Hawaii State Constitution.

Section 3 of Act 54, SLH 2011, states:

- "(a) The department of land and natural resources shall submit a progress report to the legislature no later than twenty days prior to the convening of the regular sessions of 2012 and 2013. The progress report shall:
 - (1) Indicate what is necessary to complete the public land trust inventory and the public land trust information system; and
 - (2) Include any proposed legislation that the department deems necessary to facilitate the expeditious completion and support of the inventory and information system.
- (b) The inventory and information system shall be completed and operational by December 31, 2013, unless the department advises the legislature otherwise in a progress report."

EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

DLNR has opted to issue a professional services contract pursuant to Hawaii Revised Statutes Section 103D-104, Hawaii Revised Statutes (HRS), to hire a consultant to assist with the implementation of the public land trust inventory. In accordance with Section 103D-104, HRS, DLNR maintains a list of qualified professionals in the area of computer science. A scope of work for this project will be compared against the Statements of Qualifications of the qualified professionals by a review committee in the ranking and selection of a contractor. It is DLNR's intent to work with a single contractor who will provide both consulting services in creating the inventory, as well as any necessary hardware and software upgrades.

In addition, DLNR intends to create a new staff position in service of the inventory. The primary function of this position is to manage all technical aspects of the comprehensive state land inventory database. This position would manage, maintain, and further develop the land inventory database, the inventory applications, and the longer term vision of an integrated geographic information system (GIS) associated with the land inventory system, similar to the related Public Land Trust Revenue (PLTR) system, as established in relation to Act 178, SLH 2006, related to the income generated from the lands. In addition, it is anticipated this position would coordinate with and provide technical support to other state agencies with respect to maintaining and updating their land inventory records and updating their public trust land revenue data.

DLNR's Land Division has been delegated the responsibility to implement the foregoing processes. However, due to the unexpected departure of several key staff members in both Land Division, as well as DLNR's Information Technology Services Office, there has been a delay in the implementation of these actions. Most significantly, the State Land Information Systems Manager unexpectedly resigned from DLNR in July 2011 at the beginning of Fiscal Year 2012. This individual played an integral role in developing the process for the implementation of the public land trust inventory. For the last few months, DLNR has worked toward filling this position, requesting and obtaining approval to fill, advertising the vacancy, interviewing and rating the candidates, and finally selecting a replacement. An offer has been accepted by the successful candidate and the anticipated start date for this individual is toward the end of October 2011. However, even with the filling of this position, this individual would still require training before assuming the duties required to satisfy the requirements of Act 54.

Given the complexity of this task, as a precaution, DLNR respectfully requests an extension of the December 31, 2013 deadline pursuant to Subsection (b) of Section 3 of Act 54, SLH 2011. DLNR will utilize its best efforts in the completion of the inventory in a timely manner.